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**Slaughter Applauds House Passage Transportation of Security Legislation**

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**Washington, DC** - Congresswoman Louise M. Slaughter (D-NY-28), Chair of the House Rules Committee, today applauded the passage of the Transportation Security Authorization Act, key legislation provide for the Transportation Security Administration (TSA), the agency for security of all modes of transportation.

This bipartisan bill is the first reauthorization of TSA since it was created in the Aviation and Transportation Security Act of 2001 (PL 107-71). The bill authorizes \$7.6 billion in FY 2010 and \$8.1 billion in FY 2011 for the activities of TSA, including key increases over FY 2009 funding.

**"Keeping the American people safe is the number-one priority of Congress,"** said Rep. Slaughter. **"TSA is responsible for security of**

**all modes of transportation. Properly providing for TSA is essential in keeping Americans safe when they travel.”**

Ever since TSA was created in 2001, its focus has been on aviation security. A key aspect of this legislation is to begin putting surface transportation security on an equal footing with aviation security - with key surface transportation security enhancements.

Since the attacks of 9/11, events have shown that surface transportation systems are highly vulnerable targets for terrorist attacks. The terrorist bombings of the commuter trains in Madrid in March 2004 and the London subway and bus systems in July 2005 - killing 191 and 52 people, respectively, and injuring hundreds more - highlight the need for enhanced security for surface transportation.

This legislation also includes airport security enhancements, security training enhancements, additional resources for explosive detection canine teams, and programs for the development of new security technologies.

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